Gender equitable legislative regime

2101. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister has directed his Ministry to ensure gender equitable legislative regime;

(b) whether it is also a fact that his Ministry has started a process of cleaning laws which are gender biased;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the National Commission for Women has been demanding for changes in 42 Laws, including Cr. P.C., IPC, evidence Act, etc.; and

(d) if so, the steps his Ministry has taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) The Prime Minister's Office informed the Department of Women and Child Development in the Ministry of Human Resource Development that the Prime Minister has approved, in addition to the National Common Minimum Programme, the taking of follow up measures in "ensuring complete legal equality for women in all enactments and bringing in legislation addressing domestic violence".

(b) to (d) The National Commission for Women has been recommending, from time to time, amendments in various laws concerning women with a view to remove gender discriminatory provisions from such laws. Out of 39 laws identified by the Commission, it has so far reviewed 32 laws and recommended amendments therein. In respect of the amendments suggested by the Commission in the laws administered by other Ministries/ Departments, the Department of Women and Child Development had forwarded the recommendations to the concerned Ministries/Departments for consideration. The Government introduced the Hindu Succession (Amendment) Bill, 2004 in Rajya Sabha on the 20th December for bringing in gender equality in respect of Hindu Mitakshara coparcenary property and to give equal right to women to seek partition of dwelling house occupied by members of the joint Hindu family.